

Indiana House of Representatives

News and Information

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CROOKS OFFERS WAYS TO STAY INFORMED ON ISSUES BEFORE LEGISLATURE IN 2005; LAWMAKER ALSO SEEKS STUDENTS TO PAGE IN UPCOMING SESSION

INDIANAPOLIS – State Rep. Dave Crooks (D-Washington) today detailed a number of ways for area residents to stay informed about the issues and events that will shape the 2005 session of the Indiana General Assembly.

At the same time, Crooks said he is looking for students interested in serving as pages during the long session.

"I consider constituent service the most important part of my work as an elected official," Crooks said. "By staying in touch on a regular basis with the people who live and work in the 63rd House District, I can do a better job of representing their best interests on those issues that come before the Legislature.

"So I want to encourage residents of this area to contact me whenever they have questions about the 2005 session or any other aspect of state government," he continued. "There are many ways to reach me when we are in session – telephone and the Internet, as well as good old fashioned regular mail – and I would like for people to keep them at hand."

In addition, Crooks will be sending out a survey in the days to come to gauge public interest in several issues scheduled to come before the Legislature, including a plan to adopt daylight-saving time, priorities for the new biennial state budget, and where to cut government spending. The survey will be mailed to homes throughout the district, and Crooks said people also will be able to answer the questions on-line at his Web site: www.IN.gov/H63.

"As I have in the past, I will be providing regular legislative updates on six local radio stations," Crooks said. "You can listen to these updates on WAMW-FM (107.9) at 8:25 a.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday; on WAMW-AM (1580) at 8:50 a.m. every Saturday; on WRZR-FM (94.5) at 9:50 a.m. every Saturday; on WITZ-AM (990) and FM (104.7) at 12:20 p.m. and 4:10 p.m. every Saturday; and on WBDC-FM (100.9) at 12:10 p.m. every Sunday."

Crooks also is looking for students 13 years of age or older to take part in the Indiana House Page Program, which gives youths a chance to come to Indianapolis between January and April to watch the legislative process in action.

"We usually ask that pages come on Mondays, Tuesdays or Thursdays, because those are the days that they will see the most legislative action and watch their state representatives debate and vote on issues," Crooks said. "During their visit, pages will visit the governor's office, the Indiana Supreme Court, and the Indiana House and Senate."

Students who serve as pages receive an excused absence from school. Pages are responsible for their own transportation to and from Indianapolis.

Here are the ways to reach Crooks if you want to serve as a page or if you have a question:

To call, use the toll-free Statehouse telephone number of 1-800-382-9842.

To e-mail, use Crooks' Internet Web site at www.IN.gov/H63.

To write, send a letter to Crooks in care of the Indiana House of Representatives, 200 W. Washington St., Indianapolis, IN 46204.

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This news release can be accessed on the Internet at www.IN.gov/H63